

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Reissue Application of

COMER et al.

Patent No.: 5,845,300

Issue Date: December 1, 1998

Reissue No.:

Filing Date: December 1, 2000

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR  
SUGGESTING COMPLETIONS FOR A  
PARTIALLY ENTERED DATA ITEM BASED  
ON PREVIOUSLY-ENTERED, ASSOCIATED  
DATA ITEMS

Examiner:

Art Unit:

REISSUE APPLICATION DECLARATION BY THE ASSIGNEE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

I hereby declare that:

My residence and mailing address and citizenship are stated below next to my name.

I am authorized to act on behalf of the following assignee: Microsoft Corporation and the title  
of my position with said assignee is: Assistant Secretary.

The entire title to the patent identified below is vested in said assignee.

Name of Patentee(s):  ROSS WARD COMER, ADAM BRETT STEIN and DAVID RUSSELL WILLIAMS, JR.	
Patent Number:  5,845,300	Date Patent Issued  December 1, 1998
Title of Invention: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SUGGESTING COMPLETIONS FOR A PARTIALLY ENTERED DATA ITEM BASED ON PREVIOUSLY-ENTERED, ASSOCIATED DATA ITEMS	

I believe said patentee(s) to be the original, first and sole/joint inventor(s) of the subject matter which is described and claimed in said patent, for which a reissue patent is sought on the invention entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SUGGESTING COMPLETIONS FOR A PARTIALLY ENTERED DATA ITEM BASED ON PREVIOUSLY - ENTERED, ASSOCIATED DATA ITEMS" in the specification of which

- ☐ is attached hereto.
- ☒ was filed on December 1, 2000 as reissue application number          /           
and was amended on                                 .  
(if applicable)

I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56.

I verily believe the original patent to be wholly or partly inoperative or invalid, for the reasons described below. (Check all boxes that apply.)

- ☐ by reason of a defective specification or drawing.
- ☒ by reason of the patentee claiming more or less than he had the right to claim in the patent.
- ☐ by reason of other errors.

At least one error upon which reissue is based is described as follows:

Originally filed claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 5,845,300 was rejected by prior art teaching a search region defined by an entire database. The prosecuting attorney, in amending claim 1, restricted the search region to "a table of contiguous data-containing cells encompassing said active cell and bordered by empty cells." This limitation is overly narrow and should be broadened to less restrictive search regions disclosed in the patent specification.

All errors corrected in this reissue application arose without any deceptive intention on the part of the applicant.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine and imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this declaration is directed.

Full name of person signing (given name, family name)	Title
DAN CROUSE	Assistant Secretary
Signature	Date
Address of Assignee	

<b>Patentee</b>	Citizenship
ROSS WARD COMER	U.S.A.
Residence/Mailing Address	City, State, Zip Code
7216 NE 171st LANE	BOTHELL, WA 98011

<b>Patentee</b>	Citizenship
ADAM BRETT STEIN	U.S.A.
Residence/Mailing Address	City, State, Zip Code
9840 NE 22nd STREET	BELLEVUE, WA 98004

<b>Patentee</b>	Citizenship
DAVID RUSSELL WILLIAMS, JR.	U.S.A.
Residence/Mailing Address	City, State, Zip Code
615 MT. CEDAR DRIVE	ISAQUAH, WA 98027

OFFICE OF COMMERCE

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
 United States Patent Application  
 POWER OF ATTORNEY

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or patent agent(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith:

Albrecht, John W.	Reg. No. 40,481	Lacy, Paul E.	Reg. No. 38,946
Ali, M. Jeffer	Reg. No. 46,359	Larson, James A.	Reg. No. 40,443
Anderson, Gregg I.	Reg. No. 28,828	Leon, Andrew J.	Reg. No. 46,869
Batzli, Brian H.	Reg. No. 32,960	Leonard, Christopher J.	Reg. No. 41,940
Beard, John L.	Reg. No. 27,612	Liepa, Mara E.	Reg. No. 40,066
Berns, John M.	Reg. No. 43,496	Lindquist, Timothy A.	Reg. No. 40,701
Black, Bruce E.	Reg. No. 41,622	Lycke, Lawrence E.	Reg. No. 38,540
Branch, John W.	Reg. No. 41,633	Mayfield, Denise L.	Reg. No. 33,732
Bremer, Dennis C.	Reg. No. 40,528	McDonald, Daniel W.	Reg. No. 32,044
Bruess, Steven C.	Reg. No. 34,130	McIntyre, Jr., William F.	Reg. No. 44,921
Byrne, Linda M.	Reg. No. 32,404	Mitchem, M. Todd	Reg. No. 40,731
Campbell, Keith	Reg. No. P-46,597	Mueller, Douglas P.	Reg. No. 30,300
Carlson, Alan G.	Reg. No. 25,959	Nichols, A. Shane	Reg. No. 43,836
Caspers, Philip P.	Reg. No. 33,227	Pauly, Daniel M.	Reg. No. 40,123
Chiapetta, James R.	Reg. No. 39,634	Phillips, Bryan K.	Reg. No. P-46,990
Clifford, John A.	Reg. No. 30,247	Phillips, John B.	Reg. No. 37,206
Coldren, Richard J.	Reg. No. 44,084	Prendergast, Paul	Reg. No. 46,068
Daignault, Ronald A.	Reg. No. 25,968	Pytel, Melissa J.	Reg. No. 41,512
Daley, Dennis R.	Reg. No. 34,994	Qualey, Terry	Reg. No. 25,148
Dalish, Leslie E.	Reg. No. 40,579	Reich, John C.	Reg. No. 37,703
Daulton, Julie R.	Reg. No. 36,414	Reiland, Earl D.	Reg. No. 25,767
Devries Smith, Katherine M.	Reg. No. 42,157	Samuels, Lisa A.	Reg. No. 43,080
DiPietro, Mark J.	Reg. No. 28,707	Schmaltz, David G.	Reg. No. 39,828
Edell, Robert T.	Reg. No. 20,187	Schuman, Mark D.	Reg. No. 31,197
Epp, Ryan, Sandra	Reg. No. 39,667	Schumann, Michael D.	Reg. No. 30,422
Glance, Robert J.	Reg. No. 40,620	Scull, Timothy B.	Reg. No. 42,137
Goggin, Matthew J.	Reg. No. 44,125	Sebald, Gregory A.	Reg. No. 33,280
Golla, Charles E.	Reg. No. 26,896	Skoog, Mark T.	Reg. No. 40,178
Gorman, Alan G.	Reg. No. 38,472	Spellman, Steven J.	Reg. No. 45,124
Gould, John D.	Reg. No. 18,223	Stoll-DeBell, Kirstin L.	Reg. No. 43,164
Gregson, Richard	Reg. No. 41,804	Sumner, John P.	Reg. No. 29,114
Gresens, John J.	Reg. No. 33,112	Swenson, Erik G.	Reg. No. 45,147
Hamer, Samuel A.	Reg. No. 46,754	Tellekson, David K.	Reg. No. 32,314
Hamre, Curtis B.	Reg. No. 29,165	Trembath, Jon R.	Reg. No. 38,344
Harrison, Kevin C.	Reg. No. P-46,759	Tuchman, Ido	Reg. No. 45,924
Hertzberg, Brett A.	Reg. No. 42,660	Tunheim, Marcia A.	Reg. No. 42,189
Hillson, Randall A.	Reg. No. 31,838	Underhill, Albert L.	Reg. No. 27,403
Holzer, Jr., Richard J.	Reg. No. 42,668	Vandenburgh, J. Derek	Reg. No. 32,179
Johnston, Scott W.	Reg. No. 39,721	Wahl, John R.	Reg. No. 33,044
Kadievitch, Natalie D.	Reg. No. 34,196	Weaver, Karrie G.	Reg. No. 43,245
Karjeker, Shaukat	Reg. No. 34,049	Welter, Paul A.	Reg. No. 20,890
Kastelic, Joseph M.	Reg. No. 37,160	Whipps, Brian	Reg. No. 43,261
Kettelberger, Denise	Reg. No. 33,924	Whitaker, John E.	Reg. No. 42,222
Keys, Jeramie J.	Reg. No. 42,724	Wickhem, J. Scot	Reg. No. 41,376
Knearl, Homer L.	Reg. No. 21,197	Williams, Douglas J.	Reg. No. 27,054
Kowalchyk, Alan W.	Reg. No. 31,535	Withers, James D.	Reg. No. 40,376
Kowalchyk, Katherine M.	Reg. No. 36,848	Witt, Jonelle	Reg. No. 41,980

Wu, Tong  
Xu, Min S.

Reg. No. 3,361  
Reg. No. 39,536

Zeuli, Anthony

Reg. No. 45,255

In addition, I also hereby appoint the following attorneys to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in connection therewith:

Kate E. Sako, Reg. No. 32,628  
Daniel D. Crouse, Reg. No. 32,022

I hereby authorize them to act and rely on instructions from and communicate directly with the person/assignee/attorney/firm/ organization who/which first sends/sent this case to them and by whom/which I hereby declare that I have consented after full disclosure to be represented unless/until I instruct Merchant & Gould P.C. to the contrary.

Please direct all correspondence in this case to Merchant & Gould P.C. at the address indicated below:

Homer L. Knearl  
Merchant & Gould P.C.  
P.O. Box 2910  
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0910  
303.357.1633

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine and imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this declaration is directed.

Full name of person signing (given name, family name)	Title
DAN CROUSE	Assistant Secretary
Signature	Date
Address of Assignee	

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Reissue Application of

COMER et al.

Patent No.: 5,845,300

Issue Date: December 1, 1998

Reissue No.:

Filing Date: December 1, 2000

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR  
SUGGESTING COMPLETIONS FOR A  
PARTIALLY ENTERED DATA ITEM BASED  
ON PREVIOUSLY-ENTERED, ASSOCIATED  
DATA ITEMS

Examiner:

Art Unit:

STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 3.73(b)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Box Reissue  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Applicant/Patent Owner: ROSS WARD COMER ET AL.

Application No./Patent No.: 5,845,300 Filed/Issue Date: December 1, 1998

Entitled: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SUGGESTING COMPLETIONS FOR A PARTIALLY  
ENTERED DATA ITEM BASED ON PREVIOUSLY -ENTERED, ASSOCIATED DATA ITEMS

Microsoft Corporation, a corporation  
(Name of Assignee) (Type of Assignee, e.g., corporation, partnership, university, etc.)

states that it is:

1. ☒ the assignee of the entire right, title, and interest; or
2. ☐ an assignee of less than the entire right, title and interest.  
The extent (by percentage) of its ownership interest is \_\_\_\_\_%

in the patent application/patent identified above by virtue of either:

- A. [X] An assignment from the inventor(s) of the patent application/patent identified above. The assignment was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at Reel \_\_\_\_\_, Frame \_\_\_\_\_, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

[illegible]

1. From: \_\_\_\_\_ To: \_\_\_\_\_

2. From: \_\_\_\_\_ To: \_\_\_\_\_

3. From: \_\_\_\_\_ To: \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] Copies of assignments or other documents in the chain of title are attached.

The undersigned (whose title is supplied below) is authorized to act on behalf of the assignee.

DAN CROUSE

Signature

- 2 -

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Reissue Application of

COMER et al.

Patent No.: 5,845,300

Issue Date: December 1, 1998

Reissue No.:

Filing Date: June 5, 1996

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR  
SUGGESTING COMPLETIONS FOR A  
PARTIALLY ENTERED DATA ITEM BASED  
ON PREVIOUSLY-ENTERED, ASSOCIATED  
DATA ITEMS

Examiner:

Art Unit:

JC490 U.S. PRO  
09/728000  
12/01/00

REISSUE APPLICATION: CONSENT OF ASSIGNEE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

This is part of the application for a reissue patent based on the original patent identified below.

Name of Patentee(s) ROSS WARD COMER; ADAM BRETT STEIN; DAVID RUSSELL WILLIAMS, JR.	
Patent Number 5,845,300	Date Patent Issued Dec. 1, 1998
Title of Invention METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SUGGESTING COMPLETIONS FOR A PARTIALLY ENTERED DATA ITEM BASED ON PREVIOUSLY-ENTERED, ASSOCIATED DATA ITEMS	

Filed herein is a statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b).

The written consent of all assignees and inventors owning an undivided interest in the original patent is included in this application for reissue.

12/06/2000 JBALIHAN 00000087 09728000

04 FC:581 40-00-02  
05 FC:199 4-00-00



The assignee(s) owning an undivided interest in said original patent is Microsoft Corporation  
and the assignee(s) consents to the accompanying application for reissue.

Name of Assignee:		
MICROSOFT CORPORATION		
Signature	Title	Date
	Assistant Secretary	
Typed or printed name and title of person signing for assignee (if assigned)		
Dan Crouse		

DOTDOT = 00000000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Reissue Application of

COMER et al.

Patent No.: 5,845,300

Issue Date: December 1, 1998

Reissue No.:

Filing Date: December 1, 2000

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR  
SUGGESTING COMPLETIONS FOR A  
PARTIALLY ENTERED DATA ITEM BASED  
ON PREVIOUSLY-ENTERED, ASSOCIATED  
DATA ITEMS

Examiner:

Art Unit:

REISSUE APPLICATION DECLARATION BY THE INVENTORS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, mailing address and citizenship are stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is described and claimed in patent number 5,845,300, granted December 1, 1998, and for which a reissue patent is sought on the invention entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SUGGESTING COMPLETIONS FOR A PARTIALLY ENTERED DATA ITEM BASED ON PREVIOUSLY-ENTERED, ASSOCIATED DATA ITEMS," the specification of which

- ☐ is attached hereto.
- ☒ was filed on December 1, 2000, as reissue application number          /           
and was amended on   .  
(if applicable)

I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is materials to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56.

I verily believe the original patent to be wholly or partly inoperative or invalid, for the reasons described below. (Check all boxes that apply.)

- ☐ by reason of a defective specification or drawing.
- ☒ by reason of the patentee claiming more or less than he had the right to claim in the patent.
- ☐ by reason of other errors.

At least one error upon which reissue is based is described below. If the reissue is a broadening reissue, such must be stated with an explanation as to the nature of the broadening:

Originally filed claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 5,845,300 was rejected by prior art teaching a search region defined by an entire database. The prosecuting attorney, in amending claim 1, restricted the search region to "a table of contiguous data-containing cells encompassing said active cell and bordered by empty cells." This limitation is overly narrow and should be broadened to less restrictive search regions disclosed in the patent specification.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine and imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this declaration is directed.	
Full name of sole or first inventor (given name, family name) ROSS WARD COMER	
Inventor's Signature	Date
Residence BOTHELL, WASHINGTON	Citizenship U.S.
Mailing Address 7216 NE 171st LANE, BOTHELL, WA 98011	
Full name of second joint inventor (given name, family name) ADAM BRETT STEIN	
Inventor's Signature	Date

[illegible]

Residence	Citizenship
BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON	U.S.
Mailing Address	
9840 NE 22nd STREET, BELLEVUE, WA 98004	
Full name of third joint inventor (given name, family name)	
DAVID RUSSELL WILLIAMS, JR.	
Inventor's Signature	Date
Residence	Citizenship
ISAQUAH, WASHINGTON	U.S.
Mailing Address	
615 MT. CEDAR DRIVE, ISAQUAH, WA 98027	